Virginia Department of Education Special Education State-wide Projects With the Training/Technical Assistance Centers



Factors that encourage successful outcomes of students with disabilities include:

- The school leadership and staff have high expectations of all students and embrace inclusion of students with disabilities in all school-related activities.
- There is collaboration among individualized education program (IEP) team members to develop as well as implement meaningful IEPs.
- The curriculum is aligned with state learning standards and the aligned curriculum is taught in all settings.
- There is collaboration among special and general education teachers in planning and delivering research-based, effective, and differentiated instruction.
- Students use appropriate assistive technology.
- Positive behavior supports are incorporated in a schoolwide approach to discipline.

The Virginia Department of Education's statewide projects with the Training/Technical Assistance Centers (T/TACs) provide professional development and support designed to assist schools in addressing accountability and improvement goals for students with disabilities. For more information about the Projects, refer to the attached Project List.

Project	Virginia Department of	Description
	Education Project Coordinators	
Alternate Assessment Curriculum Framework	John Eisenberg	Provide instructional resources for teachers of students with severe disabilities as well as implement training and technical assistance on the state's alternate assessment based on aligned Standards of Learning. Web sites: http://ttaconline.org/ select region from map and Assessment tab http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Assessment/home.shtml
Assistive Technology	John Eisenberg	Provide training and technical assistance on assistive technology with a focus on access to the general curriculum and support for including students with disabilities in general classrooms and community settings. Web site: http://ttaconline.org/ select region from map and OnlineTraining tab
Autism	Marie Ireland	Coordinate information and training for personnel in schools serving children with autism spectrum disorders. T/TAC staff members participate on the state's interagency autism council to improve services for individuals with autism from birth through adulthood.
		Web site: http://ttaconline.org/ select region from map http://www.autismtrainingva.org/
Behavior Assessment and Intervention & Effective School-wide Discipline	Irene Walker-Bolton	Provide training and information on conducting functional behavior assessment and developing behavior intervention plans. Provide training and technical assistance to schools on the positive behavior support model to address a systematic approach to practices that decrease inappropriate student behavior. Web sites: www.ttac.odu.edu/esd Special Education and Student Services Site Index, select Functional Behavior Assessment http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sess/siteindex/

Project	Virginia Department of Education Project Coordinators	Description
Early Childhood Transition & Preschool	Phyllis Mondak	Provide training and technical assistance for personnel working with toddlers who transition from early intervention to special education programs and for personnel in the programs to use effective practices in early childhood education. Practices that foster students with disabilities' interaction with their non-disabled peers and address early learning standards and curricula serve as the focus for these activities. Web sites: Early Childhood Special Education Web page: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sped/earlychildhood.html Early Transition document: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sped/earlychildhoodtransitiondoc.pdf
Instructional Assistance for Middle & High Schools: Strategic Instruction Model (SIM)	Diane Gillam Tom Manthey	Establish coordinated, statewide professional development to improve literacy for students with disabilities that will enable them to be successful in learning the Standards of Learning (SOL) content, using the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) and Content Literacy Continuum (CLC) from the University of Kansas' Center on Research and Learning. Professional development is targeted to teachers in middle and high schools and is supported through the federal State Improvement Grant.
Instructional Support Teams	Wayne Barry	Web sites: University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning http://www.ku-crl.org/ State Improvement Grant: Enhancing Access to the General Curriculum for Middle and High School Students with Disabilities in Virginia http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sess/SIG/ Establish Instructional Support Team (IST) process in elementary and middle schools to serve as model sites;
Support Touris		provide support and training to the sites. The IST process embellishes pre-referral activities and facilitates professional development toward improving student performance. Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/studentsrvcs/IST/

Project	Virginia Department of Education Project Coordinators	Description
Parent Involvement	Judy Hudgins	Provide for increased activities for special education training and technical assistance for parents and local Parent Resource Centers. Training is provided to increase the effectiveness of local special education advisory committees. Individualized Education Program (IEP) process training is also available for parents and educators.
		Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sess/
Reading Professional Development	Marie Ireland	Provide reading training and technical assistance with a focus on needs of special education teachers, in collaboration with Virginia's <i>Reading First</i> project.
		Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Reading/reading.html
Special Education and Remediation Assistance for Schools in Improvement	Shelly Bazemore	Coordinate participation and follow-up technical assistance for specific schools addressing the needs of students with disabilities and/or those needing remedial support.
		Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/SchoolImprovement/
Standards of Learning (SOL) Enhanced Scope & Sequence Plus+	Debbie Pfeiffer	Provide resources to elementary, middle, and high school teachers in the delivery of Standards of Learning (SOL) content to students using differentiated instructional techniques and technology.
		Web site: http://ttaconline.org/ select region from map and SOL Enhanced tab

Project	Virginia Department of Education Project Coordinators	Description
Secondary Transition Activities	Marianne Moore	Coordinate training and technical assistance activities that lead to increased graduation and school completion for students with disabilities including: regional transition projects, facilitation of local, regional and state transition networks, self-determination instruction, transition/vocational assessment experiences for students, college visitation events for students and families.
		Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sped/transition/
Secondary Transition Outcomes Project (TOP)	Marianne Moore Dale Matusevich, Radford University	Provide coordination, training, and technical assistance to local school personnel in self-assessing their IEP process to meet federal and state requirements, and to plan for programs that help students achieve their desired postsecondary goals.
		Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/sped/transition/
Technical Assistance Centers	Patricia Abrams	Provide for training and technical assistance for personnel serving students with disabilities.
Centers		Web sites: Special Education Training/Technical Assistance Centers (T/TACs) http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Sped/LEATECH NICALASSISTANCE.html T/TAC Online instructional resources and professional development opportunities http://ttaconline.org/ select region from map
	Debbie Pfeiffer, Ann Hughes, VCU-PPD	Statewide Resource Center for Education of Students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (Virginia Commonwealth University - Partnerships for People with Disabilities) Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Sped/Hlpage.html
	Debbie Pfeiffer Glen Slonneger, VDBVI	Statewide Center for Assistance for Blind & Vision Impaired (Virginia Department of Blind & Vision Impaired) Web site: http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Instruction/Sped/VIPAGE.html